

Appendix 13.1 References Cited

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Appendix 13.2 Definitions of Terms, as They Pertain to Fire Management

Burning index (BI): A relative number related to the contribution that fire behavior makes to the amount of effort needed to contain a fire in a specified fuel type. Doubling the burning index indicates that twice the effort will be required to contain a fire in that fuel type as was previously required, providing all other parameters are held constant.

Confinement: The restriction of a wildland fire within specific boundaries identified prior to or during the fire event. The boundaries, which are natural or human-made barriers, serve to confine the fire. Direct and/or indirect attack methods can be taken to hold the fire at the barriers, including backfiring, cold trailing, use of hose lays, and patrolling or mopping up the fire perimeter.

Cultural resource: Any physical evidence of past human activity used to reconstruct human history and prehistory.

Direct attack: Any treatment applied directly to burning fuel such as wetting, smothering, or chemically quenching the fire or by physically separating the burning from unburned fuel.

Extended attack: Occurs when a wildland fire cannot be controlled through initial attack and requires more than two operational periods to be controlled, and/or when the appropriate management response has not been successful. Extended attack implies that the complexity level of the incident will increase beyond the capabilities of initial attack incident command.

Fire management plan (FMP): A strategic document that defines a long-term program to manage wildland and prescribed fires within an NPS unit, in support of the unit's general and resource management plans.

Fire management unit (FMU): Any land management area definable by objectives, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regimes, etc. that set it apart from management characteristics of an adjacent unit.

Fire regime: The pattern of fire in an area as determined by its systematic interaction with the biotic and physical environment. It includes the timing, number, spatial distribution, size, duration, behavior, return interval, and effects of natural fires.

Fire weather: Weather conditions that affect fire ignition, behavior, and suppression.

Fuel: All combustible material, including grasses, dead branches and pine needles on the ground, standing live and dead trees, flammable minerals near the surface (e.g. coal) and human-built structures. Fuels are generally divided into four size classes based on their ability to ignite:

- ❑ 1 - hour time lag - $< \frac{1}{4}$ " diameter (grass, litter, duff)
- ❑ 10 - hour time lag – $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 1" diameter (twigs, small stems)
- ❑ 100 - hour time lag – 1" to 3" diameter (branches)
- ❑ 1000 - hour time lag - > 3 " diameter (large branches and stems)

Fuel model: A simulated fuel complex for which all fuel descriptors required for the solution of a mathematical rate of spread model have been specified.

Hazard fuels: Large or abnormal fuel concentrations that form a special threat of ignition and resistance to control.

Hazards: The fuels and topography on which a wildland fire will spread.

Holding actions: Planned actions required to achieve wildland and prescribed fire management objectives. For prescribed fires, these actions are developed to restrict the fire inside the planned burn unit. For suppression actions, holding actions may be implemented to prohibit the fire from crossing containment boundaries. These actions may be implemented as firelines are established to limit the spread of fire.

IQCS: Incident Qualifications and Certification System

Incident commander (IC): Person responsible for incident activities including the development and implementation of strategic decisions, and for approving, ordering and releasing resources.

Indirect attack: A method of suppression in which the control line is located some considerable distance away from the fire's active edge. Generally done in the case of a fast-spreading or high-intensity fire and to utilize natural or constructed firebreaks or fuel breaks and favorable breaks in the topography. The intervening fuel is usually backfired; but occasionally the main fire is allowed to burn to the line, depending on conditions.

Initial attack: The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildland fire to protect lives and property, and prevent further extension of the fire.

National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS): A set of computer programs and algorithms that allow a unit to estimate fire danger, based on an evaluation of the upper limit of predicted fire behavior.

Preparedness: Activities that lead to a safe, efficient, and cost-effective fire management program in support of land and resource management objectives through appropriate planning and coordination.

Prescribed Fire: A management-ignited wildland fire that burns under specified conditions of weather, fuel moisture, soil moisture, etc., that allow confinement of the fire to a predetermined area, and at the same time produce the fire behavior and fire characteristics required to accomplish planned management objectives.

Risk: Any heat source or human activity that can result in wildland fire ignition.

Suppression: All actions intended to extinguish or limit the growth of a fire, regardless of the strategies or tactics chosen.

Values: Areas where losses from wildland fire are unacceptable, such as archeological sites, developments, endangered species, adjacent land, etc.

Wildland fire: Any non-structural fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.

Wildland fire implementation plan (WFIP): A progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and selection of strategies and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire. A full WFIP consists of three stages. Different levels of completion may occur for differing management strategies (i.e., fires managed for resource benefits will have two-three stages of the WFIP completed, while some fires that receive a suppression response may only have a portion of stage I completed.)

Wildland fire situation analysis (WFSA): A systematic decision-making process that evaluates alternative management strategies to determine the most appropriate management strategy for a particular situation. Reasonable management alternatives are identified, analyzed and evaluated, consistent with the expected probability of success/consequences of failure. Evaluation criteria include firefighter and public safety, anticipated costs, resource impacts, and environmental, social and political considerations. From the management alternatives, a preferred alternative is selected, and the decision documented. The evaluation must clearly identify the point at which failure of the alternative is imminent. This becomes the triggering mechanism for re-evaluation of the WFSA, at which point the WFSA is amended or a new WFSA is completed to develop new alternatives.

Wildland fire use: The permitting of a naturally-ignited fire to burn under specific, predetermined environmental conditions, in pre-designated areas, in order to achieve defined resource management objectives.

Appendix 13.3 Park Species Lists

Appendix 13.4 NEPA Compliance

Appendix 13.5 Fire Call-Up List

13.6 Memorandum of Understanding

NPS Agreement No.
H5023-04- 0001

Memorandum of Understanding
Between the
United States Department of Interior
(National Park Service, Southeast Region and the
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Southeast Region)
and the
Georgia Forestry Commission

ARTICLE I – BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

This Memorandum of Understanding is hereby entered into this January 1, 2004 by and between the **Georgia Forestry Commission**, a state agency (the STATE), and the **National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**, agencies of the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), (the SERVICE), covering a reciprocal fire protection agreement.

The SERVICE is mandated to protect and perpetuate natural and cultural resources found within national parks and wildlife refuges, and is responsible for conducting fire management activities in federal parks and wildlife refuges in Georgia which are adjacent to areas protected by the STATE; and

The STATE is responsible for conducting fire management activities on state owned and privately owned lands in Georgia which are adjacent to and interspersed with National Park and National Wildlife Refuge lands; and

It is to the mutual advantage of both the STATE and the SERVICE to coordinate their efforts in the prevention, detection, suppression, and investigation of wildfires in and adjacent to their areas of responsibility.

ARTICLE II –AUTHORITY

This agreement is entered into under the authority of 42 USC § 1856a (1994) and Georgia Code Annotated, 12-6-5 (a)(7).

ARTICLE III –STATEMENT OF WORK

The SERVICE and the STATE agree to:

A. General Operations

1. Working in close consultation with one another, the corresponding field units may conduct fire management activities and preliminary fire-related investigations on the lands located within each other's jurisdictions, all in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and their respective annual operating plans. The plans will be drafted upon execution of this MOU and will be revised or modified as necessary on an annual basis. The prescribed content and format for the plans are set forth in the Attachment "A", the Annual Operating Plan.
2. Each corresponding field unit, upon the request of the other field unit, will dispatch fire fighting equipment and personnel to assist in the emergency suppression of fires in areas for which the requesting field unit is responsible, provided that in the judgement of the sending field unit, the fire danger and risk on lands for which it is responsible are such that the said equipment and personnel may safely be released.
3. Each corresponding field unit, to the best of its knowledge and ability, when suppressing fires for the receiving field unit will adhere to the suppression and mop-up standards of the receiving field unit insofar as resources are available. The fire management strategy to be used within the lands under the jurisdiction of the each field units will be addressed in the annual operating plans or specific Incident Action Plans. If adequate resources are not available to meet such standards, the field unit providing assistance shall notify the field unit requesting assistance at the earliest possible time.
4. Each corresponding field unit will report on wildfires under its jurisdiction. Coordination activities will be outlined in the annual operating plan.
5. Each corresponding field unit will keep the other field unit informed of major changes within its own unit with respect to facilities, personnel, equipment, services, and supplies that affect day to day operations.
6. Fire prevention and education programs will be coordinated to achieve the fire prevention objective outlined in the annual operating plans, without

duplication of effort.

7. Field units will ensure that coordinated dispatching of resources will be initiated as rapidly as can be provided.
8. For purposes of making employment compensation claims, personnel dispatched by either corresponding field units for the benefit of the other field unit will be considered as employees of their own government agency. The STATE and the SERVICE will instruct their employees to act under the direction of the receiving field unit when so dispatched. When personnel of a sending unit is working for the benefit of a receiving unit, the receiving unit shall provide or arrange for immediate medical treatment of any injuries which may be incurred at the scene of the fire.
9. Each corresponding field unit will be responsible for the training of its respective fire management personnel and will invite representatives at all levels of the other field unit to attend and participate in training sessions and meetings.
10. Each agency shall provide authorization and identify radio frequencies for cooperative fire management use. Space and or facilities for electronic equipment, radios, and antennas shall be set forth in the annual operating plan. Applicable federal and state laws and regulations will govern use of radio communications.
11. Either corresponding field unit in accordance with its applicable rules and regulations may restrict activity or close areas to the public. However, before such action is taken, the corresponding field units will determine the severity of the situation. Every reasonable effort will be made to insure uniform and simultaneous action by both corresponding field units.
12. Fuel management and prescribed fire activities will be coordinated in order to provide training opportunities and to increase experience and qualifications. Either agency may provide personnel to assist the other on a non-reimbursable basis for fuel management and prescribe fire activities. Local managers may include language in the Annual Operating Plan to further clarify the roles and expectations of fuel management and prescribe fire cooperation. Assistance may also be provided on a reimbursable basis when both parties agree to this beforehand. Actual cost for personnel and prevailing rates for equipment as described in the Annual Operating Plan may be used or the parties will mutually agree upon the reimbursement rate prior to the activities being conducted.
13. Wildfires resulting from escaped prescribed fires ignited by or at the direction or under the supervision of one of the parties to this agreement shall be the financial responsibility of that party. All suppression costs shall be borne by

the responsible party. A party may take appropriate suppression action when lands under its protection jurisdiction are involved in or threatened by the fire. Such suppression action may be taken on its own initiative or at the request of the responsible party. A party may take appropriate suppression action, at the request of the responsible party, when lands under its protection jurisdiction are not involved in or threatened by the fire. The responsible party shall reimburse the other party for all suppression costs incurred in accordance with this claim.

B. Operations within Mutual Threat Zones

For those Service lands where a mutual threat zone is applicable, the SERVICE and STATE agree to define mutual threat zone as a geographical area between two or more jurisdictions onto which representatives from these jurisdictions would respond on initial attack. Due to complexities of boundary locations and maintaining detailed maps on these mutual threat zones, both agencies agree to define the mutual threat zones in the respective Annual Operating Plans.

1. Mutual aid, which is any form of free direct assistance from one fire agency in support of another during an emergency, based upon a pre-arrangement between the agencies involved is detailed in the Annual Operating Plan. Initial attack and extended attack responsibilities of each agency within and outside the mutual threat zone are included in the Annual Operating Plan.
2. SERVICE personnel acting as authorized agents of the STATE, or anyone acting at the direction of the STATE, shall have the same rights the STATE has, pursuant to Georgia Code 12-6-5(b)(4)&(5) at any or all times upon state or privately owned lands for the purpose of taking fire suppression actions.

C. The parties further agree as follows:

1. Each party to this agreement waives all claims against the other party for compensation for any loss, damage, personal injury, or death occurring in consequence of the performance of this agreement.

ARTICLE IV –TERM OF AGREEMENT

This MOU shall be effective on the date herein above first written and shall terminate five (5) years from that date. The term of this Memorandum of Understanding may be extended for an additional five (5) years if warranted and agreed to in writing by all parties.

ARTICLE V –KEY OFFICIALS

National Park Service

Ken Garvin
Southeast Regional Fire Management Officer
National Park Service
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Bldg., 100 Alabama St., S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-3108 ext. 653
email: ken_garvin@nps.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Roger Boykin
Southeast Regional Fire Coordinator
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1875 Century Boulevard
Atlanta, GA 30345
404-679-7191
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State of Georgia

Alan Dozier
Chief, Forest Protection
Georgia Forestry Commission
P.O. Box 819
Macon, GA 31202-0819
478-751-3490
email: adozier@gfc.state.ga.us

ARTICLE VI –PRIOR APPROVAL

Not applicable.

ARTICLE VII –REPORTS AND/OR OTHER DELIVERABLES

A. Reports

1. Each corresponding field unit will furnish to the other field unit, or make available upon request, any maps, documents, instructions, records and reports, including fire reports and law enforcement reports, which either field unit considers necessary in connection with this Agreement. Provision of such information shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the federal government, the State of Georgia, and the DOI.
2. For statistical purposes each corresponding field unit will report fires in accordance with its current procedures. The field units will exchange fire report data as they deem appropriate.

B. General Payment Provisions

1. When assistance with fire management activities is requested and received by one corresponding agency, said agency may reimburse the agency that rendered the assistance. If a reimbursement is to be made, payment will be made in accordance with this MOU and the annual operating plan. Payment will be based on the actual costs incurred by the field unit rendering assistance.
2. To the extent possible, rates to be charged or reimbursed for equipment used in firefighting shall be set forth in the annual operating plan. If one corresponding field unit agrees to reimburse the other field unit for equipment, (including aircraft), reimbursement will be made at the rates set forth in the annual operating plan. If rates for certain equipment used for fire management activities are not specified in the annual operating plan, the reimbursement rate will be mutually agreed upon by the parties upon conclusion of the fire.
3. One corresponding field unit also may reimburse the other field unit for the cost of the personnel services. Salary or wages will include the actual cost to the sending field unit for work performed during the time between departure from and return to the official station. Overtime may be included, if and when overtime is earned under the laws or rules governing the employees of the sending field unit. It is not intended that salary, overtime, travel or subsistence costs will be reimbursed for the administrative personnel not directly associated with the fire management activities unless

specifically agreed upon in the annual operating plan.

4. Payments for reimbursable services rendered under this MOU may be made only upon receipt of an itemized statement that conforms to the requirements set forth herein. Within 60 days of each reimbursable fire, the field unit rendering the assistance shall furnish the field unit receiving the assistance an itemized statement containing the following information:
 - a. The date and location of the fire.
 - b. Name(s) of person(s) who ordered equipment and name(s) of person(s) from whom the equipment was ordered.
 - c. Type of truck or transportation furnished, number of miles traveled, rental rate, and the total evaluated cost as set forth in the annual operating plan.
 - d. Type of tractor, plow, engine, aircraft, or other equipment furnished, hours actually operated, rental rate, and total evaluated cost as set forth in the annual operating plan.
 - e. Names of personnel dispatched to the fire, time of dispatch and time of return to official station, total elapsed time, rate of pay, and total pay.
5. Equipment owned and used by one corresponding field unit to suppress fires on lands for which the other field unit is responsible will be operated, serviced, and repaired by the field unit that owns the equipment unless specified otherwise in the annual operating plan.

C. Reimbursements to the State

1. After a reimbursable fire occurs upon SERVICE lands, the STATE Forester or designee may prepare and send to the SERVICE's Park Superintendent or Refuge Manager at the receiving unit an itemized statement in accordance with the provisions set forth herein and in the annual operating plan for the field unit involved. The SERVICE, upon receipt of the itemized statement, shall ensure the proper processing of a funding document package.
2. Reimbursements to the STATE shall be made payable to the State Forester at the Georgia Forestry Commission.
3. The SERVICE shall not be bound to make any expenditure under the terms of this MOU or any annual operating plan except as funds are appropriated by the Congress of the United States, or otherwise are made available for such purpose.

D. Reimbursements to the Service

1. After a reimbursable fire occurs upon STATE lands, the Park Superintendent or Refuge Manager may prepare and send to the STATE Forester an itemized statement in accordance with the provisions set forth herein and in the annual operating plan for the field unit involved. The STATE, upon receipt of the itemized statement, shall ensure the proper processing of a funding document package.
2. Reimbursements to the SERVICE shall be made payable to the National Park Service or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
3. The STATE shall not be bound to make any expenditure under the terms of this MOU or any annual operating plan except as funds are appropriated by the State of Georgia, or otherwise are made available for such purpose.

ARTICLE IX –MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION

- A. This agreement may be modified only by a written instrument executed by all the parties.
- B. Either party may terminate the MOU by providing sixty (60) days advance written notice. In the event that one party provides the other party with notice of its intention to terminate, the parties shall meet promptly to discuss the reasons for the notice and to try to resolve their differences amicably. The parties commit to using every reasonable means available, including the use of a neutral mediator if necessary, to try to avoid terminating this agreement.

ARTICLE X –STANDARD CLAUSES

A. Civil Rights

During the performance of this agreement, the participants agree to abide by the terms of USDI-Civil Rights Assurance Certification, non-discrimination, and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The participants will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed without regard to their race, color, sexual orientation, national origin, disabilities, religion, age or sex.

B. Promotions

The State shall not publicize or otherwise circulate promotional material (such as advertisements, sales brochures, press releases, speeches, still and motion pictures, articles, manuscripts, or other publications) which states or implies Governmental, Departmental, bureau, or Government employee endorsement of a product, service, or position which the State represents. No release of information relating to this agreement may state or imply that the Government approves of the State's work product or considers the States work product to be superior to other products or services.

C. Public Information Release

Both the Service and the State will cooperate in seeking out and utilizing media opportunities associated with fire management activities in on state and federal lands. When both agencies are involved in a joint fire suppression effort, or when a news release by one agency is likely to have a direct impact on the other agency, a joint release will be developed and issued by the spokesperson of each agency. Specific information procedures and interface requirements with Incident Management Teams are addressed in the Annual Operating Plan.


D. Liability Provision

Each party to this agreement will indemnify, save and hold harmless, and defend each other against all fines, claims, damages, losses, judgments, and expenses arising out of, or from, any omission or activity of such person organization, its representatives, or employees.

ARTICLE XI - SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the following authorized representatives of the parties have signed their names on the dates indicated, thereby executing this agreement.

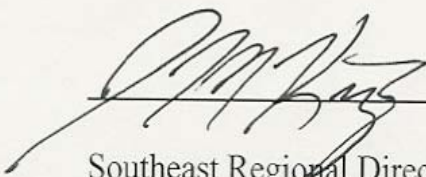
For the National Park Service:



for Southeast Regional Director
National Park Service

Date 3/23/04

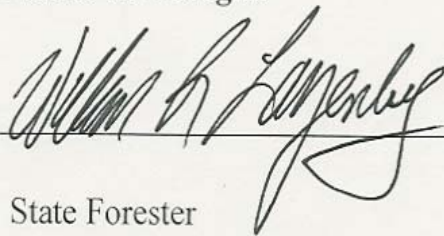
For the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



Acting Southeast Regional Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Date 3/11/04

For the State of Georgia:



State Forester
Georgia Forestry Commission

Date 20 Jan 04

COOPERATING AGENCIES

National Park Service

Superintendent
Andersonville National Historic Site
Route 1, Box 800
Andersonville, GA 31711
Telephone (229) 924-0343

Superintendent
Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area
1978 Island Ford Pkwy.
Atlanta, GA 30350
Telephone (770) 399-8072

Superintendent
Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park
3370 Lafayette Road
PO Box 2128
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742
Telephone (423) 752-5213

Superintendent
Cumberland Island National Seashore
107 West St. Mary's Street
PO Box 806
St. Mary's, GA 31558
Telephone (912) 882-4336

State of Georgia

District Forester
District 7, Georgia Forestry Commission
243 U.S. Hwy 19 North
Americus, GA 31709
(229) 931-2436

District Forester
District 2, Georgia Forestry Commission
3005 Atlanta Highway
Gainesville, GA 30507
(770) 531-6048
District 3, Georgia Forestry Commission
1055 Whitehall Road
Athens, GA 30605
(706) 542-6880
District 4, Georgia Forestry Commission
187 Corinth Road
Newnan, GA 30263
(770) 254-7218

District Forester
District 1, Georgia Forestry Commission
3086 Martha Berry Hwy, NE
Rome, GA 30165
(706) 295-6021

District Forester
District 12, Georgia Forestry Commission
5003 Jacksonville Highway
Waycross, GA 31503
(912) 287-4915

National Park Service

Superintendent
Fort Frederica National Monument
Route 9, Box 286-C
St. Simons Island, GA 31522
Telephone (912) 638-3639

Superintendent
Fort Pulaski National Monument
PO Box 30757
Savannah, GA 31410-0757
Telephone (912) 786-5787

Superintendent
Jimmy Carter National Historic Site
c/o Andersonville NHS
496 Cemetery Road
Andersonville, GA 31711
Telephone (229) 924-2343

Superintendent
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive
Kennesaw, GA 30152
Telephone (770) 427-4686 x223

Superintendent
Ocmulgee National Monument
1207 Emery Highway
Macon, GA 31217-4399
Telephone (478) 752-8257 x11

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

State of Georgia

District Forester
District 12, Georgia Forestry Commission
5003 Jacksonville Highway
Waycross, GA 31503
(912) 287-4915

District Forester
District 10, Georgia Forestry Commission
18899 U.S. Hwy 301 North
Statesboro, GA 30458
(912) 681-0490

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District 7, Georgia Forestry Commission
243 U.S. Hwy 19 North
Americus, GA 31709
(229) 931-2436

District Forester
District 1, Georgia Forestry Commission
3086 Martha Berry Hwy, NE
Rome, GA 30165
(706) 295-6021

District Forester
District 5, Georgia Forestry Commission
119 Highway 49 West
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-5164

State of Georgia

Hatchery Manager
Chatahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery
4730 Rock Creek Road
Suches, GA 30572
(706) 838-4723

District Forester
District 1, Georgia Forestry Commission
3086 Martha Berry Hwy, NE
Rome, GA 30165
(706) 295-6021

Refuge Manager
Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge
509 Old Highway 165
Eufaula, AL 36027
(334) 687-4065
(portions in Georgia)

District Forester
District 7, Georgia Forestry Commission
243 U.S. Hwy 19 North
Americus, GA 31709
(229) 931-2436

Refuge Manager
Harris Neck National Wildlife Refuge
Route 2, Box 2147
Townsend, Georgia 31331
(912) 832-4608
(also part of Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex)

District Forester
District 10, Georgia Forestry Commission
18899 U.S. Hwy 301 North
Statesboro, GA 30458
(912) 681-0490

Refuge Manager
Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge (includes)
Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Rt.2, Box 3330
Folkston, GA 31537
(912) 496-7836

District Forester
District 12, Georgia Forestry Commission
5003 Jacksonville Highway
Waycross, GA 31503
(912) 287-4915
District 8, Georgia Forestry Commission
2395 U.S. Hwy 41 North
Tifton, GA 31794
(912) 386-3617

Refuge Manager
Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge (includes)
Bond Swamp National Wildlife Refuge
718 Juliette Rd.
Round Oak, GA 31038
(478) 986-5441

District Forester
District 5, Georgia Forestry Commission
119 Highway 49 West
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-5164

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Refuge Manager

Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex (includes):

Savannah National Wildlife Refuge

Blackbeard Island National Wildlife

Refuge

Wassaw Island National Wildlife Refuge

Blackbeard Island National Wildlife

Refuge

Wolf Island National Wildlife Refuge

Parkway Business Center

1000 Business Center Drive, Suite 10

Savannah, Georgia 31405

(912) 652-4415

NOTE: Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge, portions of Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, and Tybee National Wildlife Refuge, all located in southeastern South Carolina, are also administered as part of the Savannah Coastal Refuges Complex.

Hatchery Manager

Warm Springs National Fish Hatchery (includes)

Regional Fisheries Center

5308 Spring Street

Warm Springs, Georgia 31830-9712

(706) 655-3382

State of Georgia

District Forester

District 10, Georgia Forestry Commission

18899 U.S. Hwy 301 North

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Newnan, GA 30263

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GUIDELINES FOR THE ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN

(to be formulated between the units of the FL Division of Forestry and the NPS or FWS area)

PURPOSE:

Describe the purpose of this plan and how it is to function. Describe the operating procedures between the participating agencies within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding. Cite the Memorandum of Understanding by title and effective date.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:

Discuss each agency's mandates; fire management policies; resource issues and concerns; consequent resource management objectives.

MUTUAL THREAT ZONES:

Discuss the initial attack suppression strategies that are acceptable where the boundary between the two agency's suppression responsibilities are not immediately distinguishable. Include a geographic description and map.

PRESCRIBED BURNING:

List any arrangements for the issuance of burning authorizations by agency. Detail arrangements. Discuss State and local notification procedures for conducting prescribed burns.

OPERATIONS:

Outline the fire organization in the mutual threat zone; list personnel in fire jobs. Discuss procedure for releasing resources and transitioning the fire to the responsible agency. Address acceptable fire suppression strategies. Detail who has first call, second call, support, ICS procedures, and unified command and how it is to function.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Include dispatch procedures and the procedures for keeping each other informed on fire potential and activity, and the status of fire equipment and personnel. Include under what condition radios will be made available including the type of equipment and where it is located.

PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT:

Detail resource listing of available equipment and personnel. Include a telephone directory. Discuss the types of equipment and under what conditions and where they may be used. List key personnel and any applicable qualifications. If applicable, list rates for equipment and personnel. Require full Personal Protective Equipment on fire activities, prescribed or wildland fire.

FIRE PREVENTION:

Detail interagency cooperation in fire prevention and fire education efforts.

INCIDENT REPORTS:

Detail arrangements to furnish incident reports to each agency.

TRAINING:

Discuss interagency training to be carried out at the local level. Include courses to be offered, qualified instructors, and location and facilities.

FACILITIES:

List facilities for meeting, training, and for emergency management functions.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Include under what condition reimbursements will be made. Address the procedures for making reimbursements as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

OTHER:

Detail any other applicable considerations.

PLAN APPROVAL:

District Forester and Park Superintendent approve the annual operating plan.

13.7 Limited Delegation of Authority

LIMITED DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

Memorandum

To: _____, Incident Commander

From: Superintendent, Fort Frederica National Monument

Subject: Limited Delegation of Authority

Effective as of ____/____/____ (month/day/year), at _____ hours, I have delegated you limited authority to manage the _____ fire, number _____, in the Fort Frederica National Monument.

As Superintendent I maintain ultimate responsibility for the protection of the park's resources and the lives of visitors and employees. You have full authority and responsibility for managing the incident activities within the confines of the law, National Park Service Policy, the direction given in the Incident Briefing and this Delegation.

Specific direction for this Incident and my considerations for management are:

1. Provide for firefighter, visitor, employee and neighbor SAFETY FIRST.
2. My preferred suppression strategy for this fire is one of: *(check one)* ☐ **Confine** ☐ **Contain** ☐ **Control**. This strategy should be implemented with as little resource damage as possible. Attached are the NPS definitions of CONFINE, CONTAIN, and CONTROL strategies (Exhibit 1) and Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics guidelines (Exhibit 2.)
3. Dozers or tractor plows may not be used within park boundaries.
4. Tracked or wheeled vehicles may be used inside the park where roads exist, and that are identified for public or administrative use. Helicopters, power saws, portable pumps, and leaf blowers may be used as required within the park.
5. Cultural features requiring priority protection are:

6. Key resource considerations are:

7. Constructed firelines must be rehabilitated as per NPS policy.
8. Disruption of visitor access and use should be kept to a minimum if consistent with public safety.
9. Training opportunities for park personnel shall be provided when possible to strengthen our organizational capabilities.
10. A close-out fire analysis and evaluation will be conducted by me or my representative prior to team departure. I request at least 24 hour advance notice for this meeting.
11. My Agency Advisor is:

Signed:

Superintendent
Fort Frederica National Monument

Incident Commander

Name (*printed*)

Name (*printed*)

Date: _____

Date: _____

Suppression Response Strategies

The National Park Service recognizes three levels of suppression response strategies known as: CONFINE, CONTAIN, and CONTROL.

Differences between these strategies are subtle, however consequences can vary substantially. The definitions are as follows:

- CONFINE:** To restrict the wildland fire within predetermined boundaries, established either prior to, or during the fire. These identified boundaries will contain the fire, with no suppression action being taken on the ground until the fire is out.
- CONTAIN:** To restrict a wildland fire to a defined area, using a combination of natural and constructed barriers that will stop the spread of the fire under the prevailing and forecasted weather conditions, until out.
- CONTROL:** A wildland fire, aggressively fought through the skillful use of personnel, equipment, and aircraft to establish firelines around a fire, to halt the spread, and to extinguish all hot spots until out.

All three strategies require continuous monitoring of fire behavior.

Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics Guidelines

General Discussion

Suppression tactics will have an impact on the landscape. Following the Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST) guidelines outlined below can reduce the degree of long-term impacts associated with wildland fire suppression tactics. It is important that decision makers are aware of the long-term impacts fire suppression tactics can have on the landscape, and very carefully weigh those long-term impacts to fire suppression safety issues related to wildland fire incidents. The following are MIST standards that will be used at the park. Also refer to RM-18, Chapter 9, Exhibit 5.

Tactical Standards

- Fireline construction will be minimized by taking advantage of natural barriers, trails, roads, streams, and other existing fuel breaks.
- Firelines will be the minimum width necessary to halt the spread of the fire and will be placed to avoid impacts to natural and cultural resources vulnerable to the effects of fire and fire suppression activities.
- Limbing along the fireline will be done only as essential for the suppression effort and for safety.
- Unburned material may be left within the final line.
- Clearing and scraping will be minimized.
- Snags or trees will be felled only when essential for control of the fire or for safety of personnel.

Terminating the Fire

- The route to the fire from the nearest trail or road will be flagged. The last person to leave the area will remove flagging.
- All equipment and debris will be removed from the area for proper disposal.
- Before leaving the fire, rehabilitation will be completed to eliminate impacts from the suppression effort.

Restoration of Fire Area

- Backfill cup trenches and scarify wide firelines.
- Place "boneyards" in a natural or random arrangement.
- Position cut ends of logs so as to be inconspicuous to visitors and camouflage where possible.
- Flush cut stumps, camouflage with soil and moss.

Aircraft Helicopters

- Minimize use.
- Use natural openings for helicopter landings.
- Restore helispots.

13.8 Fire Management Program Organizational Chart

Appendix 13.9 Wildland and Prescribed Fire Monitoring Plan

Appendix 13.10 Five-Year Fuels Treatment Plan

Prescribed Fire

Approximately 76 acres will be prescribed burned at the park for hazard fuels reduction, ecosystem sustainability, and historic landscape restoration and maintenance. See the following map for the treatment location.

Five Year Prescribed Fire Schedule

Treatment Unit Name	Timing of Treatment	Unit Description (General Fuel Types)
Woods, Main Park Unit (76 acres)	February - April 2005 February - April 2008	Grass/forbs/litter/under- brush beneath open pine NFDRS fuel model C Condition class 2

Mechanical Fuels Reduction

Non-fire fuels management at the park includes mechanical techniques to maintain open areas and historic vistas, to reduce hazard fuels accumulations, and to create and/or maintain defensible space of at least 30 feet around all park buildings. All non-fire applications will be conducted in compliance with NEPA, NHPA, and other legal requirements.

Hazard fuels reduction at the park will be conducted in association with the Wildland Urban Interface Initiative. Hazard fuels accumulations will be mechanically reduced along two sections of the main park unit perimeter, bordering residential and commercial property, for a total of approximately 2,055 linear feet and 1.6 acres. (These two fuels breaks will additionally serve as holding lines for prescribed fire.) The northern perimeter fuel break will be created by bush hogging/chainsawing a 12-foot wide corridor along the perimeter itself, and mechanically reducing (selectively thinning by chainsaw) hazard fuels accumulations inside of that corridor for an additional 30 feet, creating a shaded fuel break. A ~12-foot wide driveway runs along the majority (approximately 745 linear feet) of the southern park perimeter. Where the driveway does not exist, a 12-foot wide corridor will be chainsawed/bush hogged along the perimeter itself (approximately 160 linear feet). Hazard fuels will be mechanically reduced (selectively thinned by chainsaw) inside of that break and inside of the driveway for an additional 30 feet, creating a shaded fuel break.

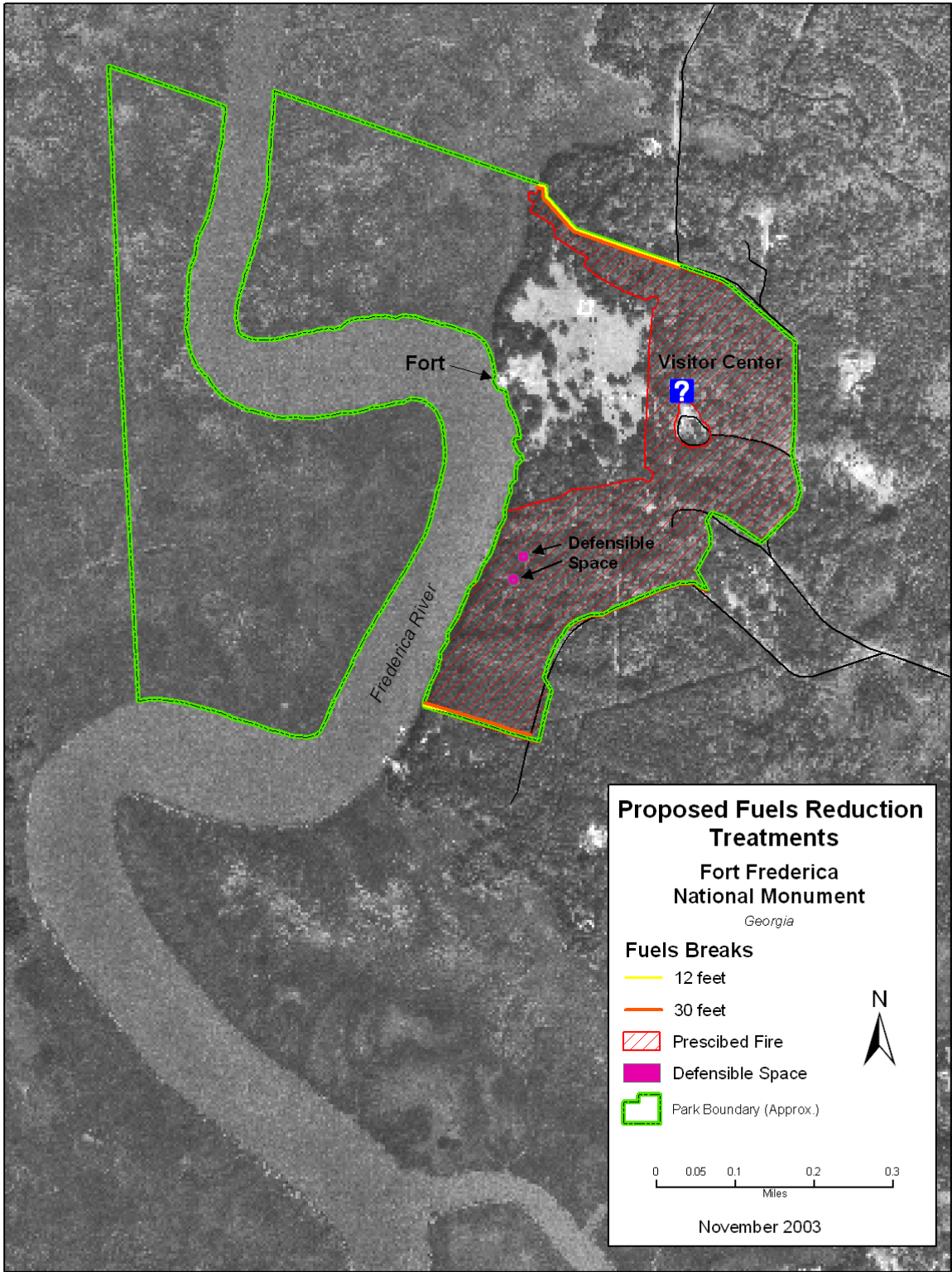
Hazard fuels accumulations will be mechanically (bush hogged/chainsawed) reduced to create and maintain a 30-foot radius of defensible space around a black powder magazine and a loading shed, both under construction at the time of this writing. Total area affected will be approximately .2 acre.

In all cases, fuels considered to be “hazards” will primarily be dead and down timber, ladder fuels, undergrowth and fallen limbs, briars, and brush/timber of less than 6 inches dbh (diameter at breast height). Remaining live trees will be limbed to approximately 12 feet from the base of tree. All down trees larger than 24 inches in diameter may remain in the fuel break, but must lie flush to the ground, with limbs cut and removed. All debris will be hauled from the park to an approved location. See the following map for the treatment locations.

Five-Year Mechanical Schedule

Treatment Unit Name	Timing of Treatment	Treatment Type	Unit Description (General Fuel Types)
Northern Perimeter Fuels Break (1,150 linear feet, 1.1 acres)	Initial, 2005; maintenance as needed thereafter	Combination of bush hogging and selective thinning (e.g. chainsaws)	Grass/forbs/litter/under- brush beneath open pine NFDRS fuel model C Condition class 2
Southern Perimeter Fuels Break (905 linear feet, .54 acres)			
Black Powder Magazine Defensible Space (.1 acre)			
Loading Shed Defensible Space (.1 acre)			

Proposed Fuels Reduction Treatments



Appendix 13.11 Wildland Fire Prevention Plan